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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A computer comprising:

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means for reproducing audio data;

a switch configured to instruct audio data reproduction;

means for activating the computer by operation of said switch when the computer is powered off, is in a standby state, and in a pause state; and

control means for detecting an activation factor during computer activation, and, if the activation factor is due to operation of said switch, initiating said reproducing means.

2. The computer according to claim 1, wherein said reproducing means comprises first reproducing means for reproducing audio data stored in an optical disk medium and second reproducing means for reproducing audio data stored in a hard disk,

said switch comprises a selection switch which selects one of the optical disk medium and hard disk, and

said control means comprises an initiation section which initiates one of the first and second reproducing means in accordance with a selection made by said selection switch.

3. The computer according to claim 1, wherein said computer comprises a main body that incorporates said reproducing means and a display

section openably mounted on said main body, and wherein, said switch is provided at a portion of a surface of said main body to be exposed even while said display section closes said main body.

4. The computer according to claim 1, wherein said reproducing means comprises means for

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reproducing audio data in accordance with a play list for specifying a reproduction order of audio data, and means for acquiring identification information on audio data that has been reproduced immediately before, at the end of reproduction operation, and storing the acquired identification information at the start of a next reproduction, and

wherein said control means comprises means for starting reproduction from audio data according to the stored identification information.

5. The computer according to claim 4, wherein said reproducing means comprises first reproducing means for reproducing audio data stored in an optical disk medium and second reproducing means for reproducing audio data stored in a hard disk,

said switch comprises a selection switch which selects one of the optical disk medium and hard disk, and

said control means comprises an initiation section which initiates said second reproducing means when said selection switch selects the hard disk, and starts

reproduction from audio data according to the stored identification information.